

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 NEA-11 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02
STR-07 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 SS-15 ICA-11 AF-10 ARA-10
ACDA-12 /162 W

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P R 161219Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2330
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USMISSION USNATO
USLO PEKING
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USCINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE
USDOCOSOUTH
USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
AMCONSUL ADANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 4530

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LONDON FOR AMBASSADOR SPIERS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, TU, CH

REF: ANKARA 4255 (NOTAL)

1. CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER HUANG HUA'S VISIT TO TURKEY JUNE 11-15 WAS A FRIENDLY AFFAIR, BUT BEYOND ITS SYMBOLIC VALUE, IT DOES NOT APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN TAKEN VERY SERIOUSLY BY EITHER SIDE AS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR CONCRETE ADVANCES IN RELATIONS. EACH USED THE VISIT FOR ITS OWN PURPOSES, AND THIS APPEARS TO HAVE RESULTED IN A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF TALKING PAST EACH OTHER. THE TURKS LISTENED POLITELY TO THE STANDARD CHINESE LECTURE ON THE DANGERS OF SOVIET IMPERIALISM, A MESSAGE WHICH SEEMED PARTICULARLY POINTED IN VIEW OF PRIMIN ECEVIT'S IMMINENT DEPARTURE FOR MOSCOW ON JUNE 21. APPARENTLY WITH TURKEY'S GEOPOLITICAL SITUATION IN MIND, HUANG ELABORATED THE CHINESE VIEW THAT THE SOVIETS WERE ATTEMPTING TO ENCIRCLE WESTERN EUROPE "FROM THE WINGS". FOR THEIR PART, THE TURKS EMPHASIZED THE ECEVIT GOVERNMENT'S DESIRE TO BROADEN ITS TIES WITH ASIAN AND AFRICAN COUNTRIES AND PORTRAYED THIS VISIT, THE FIRST HIGH-LEVEL CHINESE VISIT SINCE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WERE ESTABLISHED IN 1971, AS A PART OF THIS NEW DIRECTION IN TURKISH FOREIGN POLICY. BOTH SIDES STRESSED THAT THERE WERE "NO PROBLEMS" IN THEIR BILATERAL RELATIONS.

2. ACCORDING TO ONE FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL, THE TURKS LISTENED WITH BOTH INTEREST AND CONCERN TO CHINESE WARNINGS REGARDING SOVIET AND CUBAN ACTIVITIES
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IN AFRICA. THE TURKS WERE APPARENTLY AMUSED BY THE STRONG CHINESE SUPPORT FOR NATO AND THEIR DESIRE THAT TURKEY REMAIN STRONGLY TIED TO THE ALLIANCE. THE CHINESE ALSO PUBLICLY REITERATED THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE BASIC TURKISH POSITION ON CYPRUS, INCLUDING A CALL FOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION BASED ON THE "EQUALITY OF THE TWO CYPRIOT COMMUNITIES".

3. BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS APPEARED TO HAVE CENTERED ON TRADE MATTERS, BUT THE CHINESE WERE UNPREPARED FOR DETAILED TALKS. THE TURKS PRESENTED A DRAFT PROPOSAL ON ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION WHICH THE CHINESE UNDERTOOK TO STUDY. THE TWO SIDES ALSO DECIDED TO REVIVE A MIXED TRADE COMMITTEE WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED DURING THEN TURKISH FOMIN GUNES' VISIT TO THE PRC IN 1974, BUT WHICH HAS NEVER MET. FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE CHINESE FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER IS EXPECTED TO LEAD A DELEGATION TO TURKEY IN SEPTEMBER. IN ADDITION, THE TURKISH MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE WILL REPORTEDLY VISIT CHINA IN JULY. ECEVIT ALSO ACCEPTED HUANG HUA'S INVITATION TO VISIT CHINA AT SOME UNSPECIFIED FUTURE DATE.

4. AFTER TWO DAYS OF DISCUSSIONS IN ANKARA WITH
ECEVIT, FONMIN OKCUN, DEFENSE MINISTER ISIK AND OTHERS,
HUANG DEPARTED JUNE 14 FOR TWO DAYS OF SIGHTSEEING IN
ISTANBUL. HE LEFT ISTANBUL JUNE 15 FOR TEHRAN.
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